

# Gimme Shelter

## News from the Loudoun County Animal Shelter

Loudoun County Department of  
Animal Care & Control

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## Horses Galore!



Animal Care & Control is currently caring for 48 horses as part of an ongoing Animal Control investigation. The horses range in age from under one year to senior, and are in varying states of health and temperament. Shelter staff members are diligently working to provide them with proper housing, food, water, and medical care. Some of the horses have special needs due to their poor condition and staff is taking all necessary steps to ensure the care and welfare of these animals.

At a hearing Wednesday, the Circuit Court decided that the horses had been cruelly treated, and the horses were remanded to the custody of the Department.

Caring for 48 horses is an enormous undertaking, and Animal Care and Control staff would not be able to do it alone. The horses require nearly 50 bales of hay a day, and several troughs of fresh water that need to be filled throughout the day. In addition, the horses generate nearly 1 ton of manure a day!

The Department has received amazing support from a number of County Departments who have pitched in to help ensure that the horses are receiving the best care possible.

In addition to assistance from County agencies, the horses have brought a tremendous outpouring of support from the community. Over 80 people have applied to work as volunteers to care for the horses. Volunteers are critical to help staff feed, water, and clean up after the horses. Volunteers are also making sure that the other animals in the Shelter are still getting plenty of love and attention.

Continue to check our website, [www.loudoun.gov/animals](http://www.loudoun.gov/animals), for updates on the horses. And thank you to everyone who is helping with this situation!

## Loudoun County Retrievers Win

Animal Care & Control is proud to announce that we received an honorable mention award in the Maddie's Fund/ Petfinder Marketing Contest! The competition sought entries from shelters around the country, and looked for organizations that had developed innovative ways to market hard to adopt animals.

Animal Care & Control was honored with a \$500 prize for the "Adopt a Loudoun County Retriever" program in May 2007. As you may recall, this program helped to

spotlight the joys of adopting a dog and living in Loudoun County, and was part of the County's 250th Anniversary Celebration.

Twenty-one dogs found homes during "Adopt a Loudoun County Retriever" month, representing a 76% increase over the same time period in 2006.

The award will be used to continue to develop creative programs to help all shelter animals find loving, permanent homes.

## 2007 Adoptions



2007 was a busy year at the Animal Shelter, as **1,023** animals found new homes.

This number includes:

- 405 kittens
- 175 adult cats
- 63 puppies
- 171 adult dogs
- 53 rabbits
- 72 rodents (including hamsters, gerbils, and guinea pigs!)

Thank you to everyone who opened their heart and home to a Shelter animal. We look forward to 2008!



**Petfinder.com**

# Somebunny To Love

Animal Care & Control and RabbitWise want to help you find "Somebunny to Love!"

In honor of Adopt a Rescued Rabbit Month, the Loudoun County Animal Shelter and RabbitWise are teaming up to help every shelter rabbit find a new, loving home.

During the month of February, all rabbit adopters will receive:

- FREE spay/neuter for their new pet (if necessary)
- FREE Bunny Fun Pack with toys and treats
- A complimentary personal consultation with a RabbitWise expert

Plus, the Department will be hosting two "Somebunny to Love" open houses, where representatives from RabbitWise will be at the Animal Shelter to show off rabbits available for adoption and answer questions about rabbit care. Adopters can also learn how to build a low cost rabbit habitat!

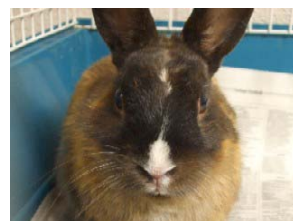
## "Somebunny to Love" open houses will be:

- Saturday, February 16, 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
- Saturday, February 23, 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

And be sure to catch "Making Friends" on Comcast Loudoun

Channel 2 in February for a special episode all about rabbits!

If you've been thinking of adopting a rabbit, then February is the time to do it! Come to the Loudoun County Animal Shelter to find "Somebunny to Love!"



# Employee of the Month

**Adrienne Lawson** is January's Employee of the Month!

Adrienne has worked as an Animal Control Officer for four years, and she was recently promoted to a Lead Animal Control Officer. Adrienne's efforts and dedication for always putting the needs of the animals in the community first and ensuring the laws of the Commonwealth are enforced in a professional manner and with compassion is outstanding. This was

most evident recently when charging suspects in a cruelty case involving a Rottweiler. Her leadership, positive attitude, and willingness to help others with their work while also promoting a team spirited environment is highly commendable.

**Thank you Adrienne for all you do!**



**Congratulations Adrienne!**

# What We're Up To...

## Making Friends on Channel 2

Animal Care & Control's TV show, "Making Friends," has a new home on Comcast Loudoun Channel 2. The show is taped weekly at the Animal Shelter, and showcases animals available for adoption and other timely topics.

"Making Friends" can be seen on Channel 2 at these times:

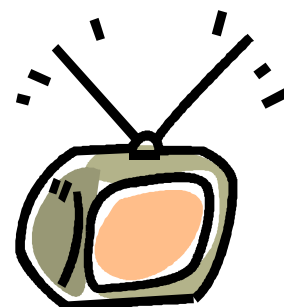
- Mondays: 7:00 PM
- Tuesdays: 6:00PM, 9:00PM, 11:00PM
- Thursdays: 6:00PM, 9:00PM, 11:00PM

- Fridays: 7:00AM, 9:00AM, 11:00AM, 1:00PM, 5:00PM, 8:00PM, 10:00PM
- Weekends: 8:00AM, 12:00PM, 11:00PM

Be sure to check out the show—you might find your new best friend!

## February Holidays

The Animal Shelter will be **closed** Monday, February 18, in observance of President's Day. Emergency Animal Control services are available when the Shelter is closed.



**Look for the "I'm a TV Star" stickers to find animals at the Shelter that have been featured on "Making Friends!"**